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62-1546

21 March 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence**SUBJECT: Study of Security Compromises
by the Defense Department**

1. Bob Bannerman has very kindly undertaken to ask Howard Osborn to prepare a memorandum which will identify and briefly summarize the various statements and presentations made by the present and previous Secretaries of Defense which compromise one category or another of intelligence classifications. Obvious instances include the public presentations made at the time of the Cuban missile crisis and the Tonkin Gulf episode. The Director, in requesting the preparation of such a memorandum, recalled a speech made by Mr. McNamara in San Francisco at some point. There were also attempts, with varying degrees of success, made from time to time, to secure approval for the release of SIGINT and other material to develop a basis for confirming the presence of the North Vietnamese military in South Vietnam. Probably there are a number of other instances.

2. I do not understand that the Director is interested in a complete list of all statements which have compromised security. As I understand it, he wants a few illustrative instances to support a discussion with the PFIAB on the subject of his own responsibilities for protecting the security of sources and methods and the problem presented by his relations with the Secretary of Defense on this subject.

3. It is my impression that the DD/S&T has a file on this subject which should be helpful. [REDACTED] presumably also has records which would contribute to the proposed review.

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JAF John A. Bross

**JOHN A. BROSS
D/DCI/NIPE****cc: Mr. Bannerman
Mr. Duckett
Mr. Osborn****Mr. Houston
[REDACTED]
Mr. Maury**

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